Reviewer's report

Title: Psychosocial Factors Associated with Frailty and Outcomes of Frailty: an Observational Study of Hospitalised People

Version: 2 Date: 15 August 2014

Reviewer: Colleen J Maxwell

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Manuscript Title: Psychosocial factors associated with frailty and outcomes of frailty: an observational study of hospitalised people

With regard to the revised submission of the above manuscript, the authors have adequately addressed most of the issues and concerns raised in the initial review. I particularly appreciate the thorough response letter provided by the authors. There are a few minor issues that remain to be addressed as noted below.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Lines 107-108 (3rd paragraph of Introduction, “The relationship between frailty and adverse outcomes is often studied in community-based populations.”) – it would be helpful for the authors to add in a few key references in support of this statement.

2. Lines 162-163 (2nd paragraph of Measures section) - regarding the scoring employed for each frailty component, given the significance of this measure and relevance of alternate scoring approaches, the authors should either provide the specific details in the text or in a Supplementary (online) appendix (rather than simply referring to their previous study).

3. Lines 241-244 (discussion of findings for Table 1) – it would be helpful for the authors to further note the significant finding observed between caregiver and frailty. Some mention of this finding and its possible meaning should also be incorporated into the Discussion section.

4. Lines 346-347 (discussion of findings from Table 3) – enjoyment of home/neighbourhood was not an effect modifier of frailty for all four outcomes (as it was not associated with LOS). This should be clarified by the authors.

Discretionary Revisions

None.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.